

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the communication filed on 04/06/2010.
2. The prior office actions are incorporated herein by reference. In particular, the observations with respect to claim language, and response to previously presented arguments.
3. Claims 1-49 are pending in the application.
4. Claims 1-49 are allowed.

RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS

5. The applicant's arguments regarding 35 USC 103(a) type rejections of claims 1-34 and 44-49 are fully considered, and found persuasive. The previous 35 USC 103(a) type rejections are withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowances:

Independent claims 1, 13 and 23 are patentable over the cited prior arts because they do not anticipate nor fairly and reasonably teach independently or in combination a device/ method/ system comprising besides other limitations: if the authentication of the physical address indicates the physical address is valid, authenticate one or more user credentials user information provided by a user of the user device after the physical address is authenticated; and if the authentication of the one or more user credentials user information indicates the one or more user credentials user information is are valid, determine if the network access device has sufficient enough system resources to dynamically configure a user policy; and if the determination indicates the network access device has sufficient system resources, dynamically assign the user

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policy to the one of the plurality of input ports; and restrict further traffic on the one of the plurality of input ports in accordance with the user policy; and if the authentication of the physical address indicates the physical address is invalid, or if the determination indicates insufficient system resources, block traffic on the one of the plurality of ports except for packets related to a user authentication protocol.

Independent claims 38, 40 and 42 are patentable over the cited prior arts because they do not anticipate nor fairly and reasonably teach independently or in combination a device/ method/ system comprising besides other limitations: authenticate user information provided in a second data packet by a user of the user device after the physical address is authenticated; if the authentication of the user information indicates the user information is invalid, block all traffic on the port except for packets related to a user authentication protocol; and if the authentication of the user information indicates the user information is valid, determine whether the user is associated with a VLAN supported by the network access device by receiving a message from an authentication server, wherein the message comprises a VLAN identifier (ID) associated with the user information; and if the user is not associated with the VLAN, assign the one of the plurality of input ports to a port default VLAN; and block all traffic on the one of the plurality of input ports except for packets related to the user authentication protocol; and if the user is associated with the VLAN and if the network access device has enough system resources to dynamically configure a user policy associated with the user information, assign the one of the plurality of ports to the VLAN associated with the user; and restrict access to the one of the plurality of input ports in accordance with the a user policy.

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Dependent claims are allowed because of their dependencies on the allowable independent claims.

CONCLUSION

7. Claims 1-49 are patentable.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shanto M Z Abedin whose telephone number is 571-272-3551. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:00 AM to 6:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Moazzami Nasser, can be reached on 571-272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shanto M Z Abedin

Examiner, A.U. 2436

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Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2436